

Figure S1. Characterization of transgenic reporter lines used. **a-d** Lateral view images of the larval spinal cord show an overview of transgenic reporters (indicated) used to mark defined axon subtypes or oligodendrocyte membranes. Note that  $tbx16^+$  CoPA and  $isl1[ss]^+$  RB axons project from spinal neurons, whereas the cell bodies of  $pitx2c^+$  and  $phox2b^+$  reticulospinal neurons are located in the brain. Images are tiled confocal maximum z-projections with dorsal up and anterior left. Scale bars = 200 µm (full body) and 50 µm (inset).

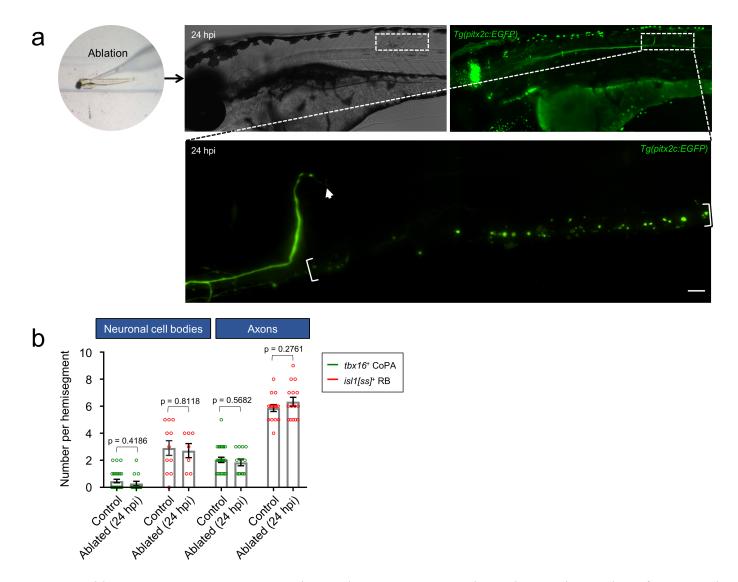


Figure S2. Ablation removes posterior reticulospinal axon segments without altering the number of CoPA and RB local spinal cord axons. **a** Anterior injury (somites 6-7) performed on a 72 hpf larva with a 60  $\mu$ m glass capillary needle. Lateral view images of the larval spinal cord acquired at 24 hpi (96 hpf) show severed pitx2c<sup>+</sup> descending reticulospinal axons and Wallerian degeneration distal to the ablation site (bracketed). Images are tiled confocal maximum z-projections with dorsal up and anterior left. Scale bar = 10  $\mu$ m. **b** Quantification of  $tbx16^+$  CoPA and  $is11[ss]^+$  RB neuron cell bodies and axons in control (non-injured siblings) and ablated (24 hpi, 96 hpf) larvae. For neuron cell body counts, n (larvae) = 28, 14 ( $tbx16^+$  control, ablated); 11, 6 ( $is11[ss]^+$  control, ablated) and for neuron axon counts, n (larvae) = 27, 13 ( $tbx16^+$  control, ablated); 15, 15 ( $is11[ss]^+$  control, ablated). Error bars represent the mean  $\pm$  SEM. Reported p-values were generated using a two-tailed, unpaired t-test to compare groups at matched time points.

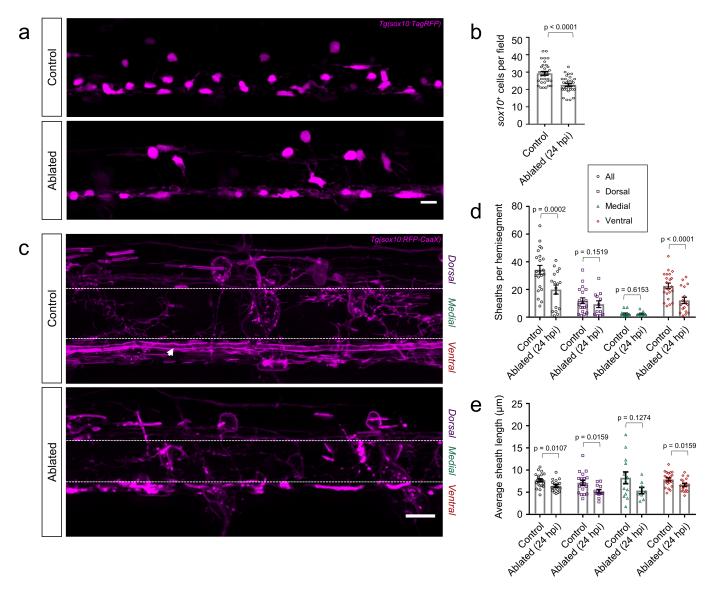


Figure S3. Effects of reticulospinal ablation on posterior spinal cord glia. a Lateral view images of the posterior spinal cord show oligodendrocyte-lineage cell bodies marked by Tg(sox10:TagRFP) in control (noninjured siblings) and ablated larvae (24 hpi, 96 hpf). **b** Quantification of oligodendrocyte-lineage cell bodies shows the number of sox10:TagRFP<sup>+</sup> oligodendrocyte-lineage cells per field (spinal cord hemisegment). n (larvae) = 32 (control); 31 (ablated). c Lateral view images of the posterior spinal cord show myelin sheaths marked by Tg(sox10:RFP-CaaX) in control and ablated larvae (24 hpi, 96 hpf). Dashed white lines demarcate dorsal, medial, and ventral domains (indicated). d-e Quantification of myelin sheaths (d) and average myelin sheath lengths (e). Scatter plot points represent the number of sox10:RFP-CaaX<sup>+</sup> myelin sheaths per spinal cord hemisegment (d) and average sheath length per animal (e) reported as a total and by domain (dorsal, medial, and ventral). For **d-e**, sheaths wrapping the Mauthner axon (Supplemental Fig. 3c arrowhead) were excluded from data. For sheath counts (d), n (larvae) = 22, 17 (total control, total ablated); 19, 12 (dorsal control, dorsal ablated); 13, 9 (medial control, medial ablated); 22, 17 (ventral control, ventral ablated) and for average sheath lengths (e), n (larvae) = 22, 19 (total control, total ablated); 19, 14 (dorsal control, dorsal ablated); 13, 9 (medial control, medial ablated); 22, 19 (ventral control, ventral ablated). All images are tiled confocal maximum zprojections with dorsal up and anterior left. Scale bars =  $10 \mu m$ . For all graphs and statistical comparisons, error bars represent the mean  $\pm$  SEM. Reported p-values were generated using a two-tailed, unpaired t-test to compare groups at matched time points.